



# The Spindrifter

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General Meeting  
**Thursday, September 24**  
Via Zoom  
Business meeting: 10:00  
Program: 10:30

We're delighted to present two speakers for the month of September.

John Phibbs and Paula Crevoshay



John Phibbs MBE, English landscape architect, will lead us on a Cotswolds Safari. We will discover this charming corner of the English countryside, peppered with some of the prettiest gardens imaginable: the roses of Kiftsgate Court; the fanciful topiary of Rockcliffe; the timeless domain that is Hidcote; and the Prince of Wales' private gardens at his country residence, Highgrove House.

The Cotswolds are gentle limestone hills, rising to England's west and populated by villages built of mellow honey-colored stone. Their churches and ancient manor houses show the wealth that came from these hills in the Middle Ages, when the Cotswolds provided the wool that supported England's textile industry. But in the 18th and early 19th centuries, villages like Broadway, Stow-on-the-Wold, and Burford, with their long market streets and higgledy-piggledy houses, were largely forgotten, little touched by the industrial revolution because they had no coal, no iron, and no access to a port.

However, it was just these unchanged traditions of building and creating that were to bring an unexpected renaissance to the Cotswolds. In 1871 the socialist idealist William Morris moved to the village of Kelmscott Manor and established the Arts and Crafts movement – a movement that celebrated traditional craftsmanship in reaction to industrial mass-production.

Cont'd pg. 3

## ~~From the Co-Presidents' Desk~~

### September Co-Presidents' Message

It is with pleasure that we welcome our ten new members, as well as all our returning members, to the start of our 2020-2021 reimagined club year.

It shouldn't be a surprise that we have chosen **"Think and Grow Outside the Box"** as our theme for the year. Who could have envisioned when we last met in February that in September we would still be unable to gather as usual, be forced to welcome our new members virtually, and have to resort to a "Drive-By" to hand out the new Yearbooks that Mercedes and Kate spent the summer working on?

Given that reality, we are nevertheless very excited to share what's ahead as we begin our year virtually, via Zoom. We have an amazing lineup of speakers, both national and international, secured by our enterprising and energetic program co-chairs, Sheryl and Susan. Topics as varied as an insect hotel in Sweden, a tour of the Portland Japanese Gardens, Monarch butterflies, using nature to inspire jewelry, and many other diverse topics. If you can't join us for our regularly scheduled Zoom monthly meetings, a link to the monthly program can be found in the "Members Only" section on our website, [VGCLJ.com](http://VGCLJ.com). Do create a login and password and become familiar with the contents as Sara Carpenter, our skilled webmaster, continually updates our most current activities and information. Did you realize that the entire Yearbook can be found on our website?

Since we will be unable to gather together for a while, communication through Eblasts, the Spindrifter, as well as the VGCLJ Website will help us stay engaged for the time being. Thinking outside the box, we are also trying something new this year. Elizabeth Hansen has joined the Governing Board and will administer a closed Facebook page where members can exchange ideas and chat. (see pg.4) And please continue to send your garden thoughts and pictures to Sue K. at [suekinlj@yahoo.com](mailto:suekinlj@yahoo.com) for inclusion in Voices from Our Village.

Our goal is to maintain the connections, education, experiences, and friendships that make our Village so special. We thank you for your flexibility and your willingness to "Think and Grow Outside the Box."

Sue and Sue (Sue<sup>2</sup>)



Speaker cont'd

By the end of the 19th century, his ideas had spread across Europe (under the names of 'National Romanticism' and 'Art Nouveau'), and their influence can still be felt throughout North America.

Since the time of Morris, these Cotswolds manor houses have been much sought after, and their gardens represent to perfection a certain way of living, with respect to craftsmanship, to the land, and to the past: simple designs based on traditional crafts, dry stone walls, fanciful topiary, colorful herbaceous borders, and garden rooms.

**and**



Paula Crevoshay earned her Master of Fine Arts degree from the University of Wisconsin-Madison with Honors and a full scholarship at the tender age of 22. Although she started as a painter, she changed media from oil and watercolor (reflected light) to gemstones (transmitted light) because she felt that with gems she was painting with the light itself!

She was also gratified that in jewelry she could work with art and art history, culture and symbolism, metallurgy and technique. In gemstones we have geography, geology, mineralogy, and the physics of light. As a fine artist, Crevoshay finds all of nature, history, and human experience are open to her expression, working with the most durable of all materials as her medium.

Crevoshay maintains that it is necessary to master both the science and the techniques of one's media in order to create an artistic masterpiece. Her deep respect for both the spirituality and science of nature leads her to study and understand how the play of light in different materials can be combined to great effect.

Her combinations of gems, whether serene and subtle or bold and exciting, are always harmonious. This delights collectors and has led the press to dub her *The Queen of Color*. Her designs often hold clues that tell stories about the gemology and chemistry of the gems. This fascinates gemologists and other scientists. The fact that her exquisite designs are executed with meticulous craftsmanship contributes to making her work museum worthy.

Crevoshay has had one woman museum shows in North America, Europe, and Asia, and her work is now on permanent display in museums including the Gemological Institute of America Museum, Carnegie Museum, and the Smithsonian.

Susan Harris  
Sheryl Lester

## facebook

### Another Way to Stay Connected

Because the times dictate that we not gather in person, a new way to stay in touch has been created. A closed Facebook group, *VGCLJ Chat Room*, was launched recently and is now the place to share garden news, swap surplus fruit and veggies, ask plant care questions, and offer “extra” plants or cuttings.

If you’re already on Facebook, just log in, search for **VGCLJ Chat Room**, and join the group. If you’re not on FB, setting up an account is free of charge and easy to do. Please don’t invite friends who aren’t members of our club to join this group. This is a private site, just for us.

The group is an optional extra for those who want to be able to connect with other members on an informal basis. It is not a place to find official club information. That will still be found in *The Spindrifter* and Eblasts.

The times may call for social distancing, but there’s no reason we can’t hang out online – so join us in the VGCLJ Chat Room.

Elizabeth Hansen, Facebook Administrator

Find us on 

### Gardeners’ Exchange Table

As we start our new year, we have adopted a different way of doing business. Instead of having our Gardeners’ Exchange Tables at our greeting time before our meetings, we will be doing a **Virtual Gardeners’ Exchange** which will be done on our CLOSED Facebook chatroom any time. It is open to our garden club members only. You can still purge your garages, sheds, closets, and gardens and share them with members like before. However, during this time, you can post what you have, including pictures and descriptions along with your **name** and any details you would like to add, such as when and where the items will be available. Our members can use their 2020-2021 YEARBOOK for information on how to post on our CLOSED Facebook page. This is important for privacy. You may advertise ONLY gardening items, such as cuttings, excess fruit or vegetables, plants, planters, vases, gardening tools, books, and any type of garden décor as we did when we met in person.

An example of one such advertisement would be: your name, a picture of a box of peaches that you will leave on your front porch on Thurs., Sept. 24, from 10:00-3:00. You may call in the afternoon to see what is still available.

Note: For those of you who do not use Facebook, you can also send the above information to [suekinlj@yahoo.com](mailto:suekinlj@yahoo.com) for inclusion in Voices from Our Village.

Now, more than ever, we have had more time to work in and enjoy our gardens as well as clearing and organizing our sheds, garages, and closets. I’m sure that there are even more vases, decorations, planters, cuttings, and plants to be given to happy recipients!

In the meantime, enjoy your gardens and you can collect as many gardening items as you wish for our Virtual Gardeners’ Exchange. Please plan to POST your items.

Best wishes to you as you live in a very different world.

We really look forward to seeing you again as soon as it is safe. It’s amazing just how much this garden club means to us especially when we cannot get together.

Happy gardening, be well, and stay safe,

Clara Blenis and Suzanne Thomas, Committee Co-Chairs



**Kudos and Thank You to Our Hard-Working Working Committees Who Worked Throughout the Summer.  
Because of you, we're off to a great start!**

Karen Morse & Debi Nichols & the Moores Healing Garden Team  
 New Member Liaison – Diana Lombrozo  
 Susan Harris & Sheryl Lester – Programs  
 Alida Bracker & Cecilia Carrick– Take Down/for washing all of our tablecloths  
 Cindy Lococo – Treasurer  
 Sara Carpenter – Website and Technology  
 Maureen McMahan & Mary Ruyle – Workshops  
 Mercedes Bartolomei Penner & Kate Engler – Yearbook Editors  
*Plus all of the Contributors to Voices From Our Village including Kate Engler, who so carefully edited each edition.*



**WREATHS** *across* **AMERICA**

Thank you to everyone who has supported this wonderful cause in the past. Wreaths across America is following county health guidelines throughout the United States to be able to place wreaths on veterans' graves all across our country, abroad and at sea on December 19, 2020.

**DEADLINE TO SPONSOR A WREATH – November 30<sup>th</sup>**

The link below will take you directly to The Village Garden Club of America's website so that you can be sure the VGCLJ will receive credit for your donation. Please feel free to share this link with family and friends WAA and the VGCLJ welcome their participation.

[www.wreathsasscrossamerica.org/CA0328P](http://www.wreathsasscrossamerica.org/CA0328P)

Questions please email [karen.novak123@gmail.com](mailto:karen.novak123@gmail.com)



Linda Bienhoff, artist

## Expressions in Art and Flowers

For many years our club held ***Expressions in Art and Flowers*** at our April meeting as we thought the spring flowers were at their peak at that time. More recently, when The San Diego Museum of Art began to hold their Art Alive at the time of our April meeting, we moved our event to March. Many of our members participate in both.

Checking with SDMA this year, we find that they now plan to hold Art Alive, their major fundraiser, in June of 2021. With this in mind, we plan to hold our event once again in April this year. Of course, we are hoping that we will all be able to congregate again and have a live show. If that is still not possible, we plan to create a video demonstration of how members and/or professionals would create arrangements based on some of our members' art. Stay tuned.

Janet Evans and Bonnie Sipe

## Welcome to the Wonderful World of Zoom!



As we begin this most unusual year, our meetings will be held through Zoom. If you haven't used Zoom before, please go to <https://zoom.us/support/download> to download Zoom. Prior to the day of the September 24 meeting, familiarize yourself with any features you may need to use.

The week of the meeting you will receive an email from me ([suekinlj@yahoo.com](mailto:suekinlj@yahoo.com)) with a Zoom link to access our meeting. This link is *only* for members of VGCLJ. Further information and instructions for the meeting will also be included in the email.

Please let me know if I can help you in any way or provide any additional information.

Sue Kalish

welcome

*A very warm welcome to our new members!*

Taunya Daley

Annette Gomez

Kathleen Lundgren

Gale Nill

Paula McGraime

Mimi Mortensen

Elizabeth Ogilvy

Sylvia Ré

Barb Sands

Annie Ver Steeg

welcome

## The Habitat and Jacaranda Tree Planting Program



Co-chairs Devonna and Penelope want to give a big thank you to all those members who donated to our committee with their membership renewals. The amount totaled \$2,090. These unrestricted funds will help cover our administrative costs and plans for a dedication ceremony when permissible.

At present we have \$3,370 in tree donations in memory or honor of someone. Of this amount, \$2,220 has been donated for Jacaranda trees and \$1,150 for Habitat trees.

Last year we expanded our mission to include the planting of Habitat trees as well as Jacarandas. The reason for this expansion was to compensate for the loss of wildlife habitat due to population growth and also to "green" those neighborhoods in South San Diego where the tree canopy is sparse.

A Habitat tree need not be a native tree. An example is the Engelmann Oak (pictured below) which supports numerous insects, birds, and other creatures and also provides great shade--so welcome during heatwaves such as we are having as I write.

Beautiful as the Jacarandas are, however, they don't provide equivalent shade or wildlife support.

When making a donation, members can indicate which type of tree they would like to plant. Every donation of \$50 goes toward the planting of trees. Needless to say, that amount does not cover the true cost of planting a tree, which is about \$350, but the accumulated funds enable us to plant trees in public spaces as or when we find a suitable location.

Our ability to search out locations has been somewhat curtailed this summer due to Covid-19. However, thanks to Devonna's work with the president of Paradise Gardener's Club, our Club will be planting six 15-gallon Engelmann Oaks in the Paradise Hills Community Park in South East San Diego (6610 Potomac St., 92139). Our first Habitat tree planting! Nancy Janssen, president of their club, is thrilled, as we are, that oak trees such as the one pictured above will come to grace this park.

We have also met with Ann Dynes, founder of the San Diego Tree Foundation, whose mission is to increase the tree canopy in San Diego. She has suggested the Kearny Mesa Rec Center park area, which includes the adjacent Center for Children, as a location needing trees. We will visit the site and meet with the CEO of the Center for Children, Moise Baron.

Like so much else, our Dedication Ceremony, which was to have been held last spring at a new location, the La Jolla Historical Society, had to be cancelled. As soon as it is safe to have a gathering, we will reschedule.

This year we will also be reporting on trees we have planted in the last several years to see how they are doing. As is often said, planting the right tree in the right place is the key to success.

Devonna Hall and Penelope West  
Co-Chairs, Habitat and Jacaranda Tree Planting Program



SEPTEMBER 2020						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17 VGCLJ	18	19
20	21	22	23	24 VGCLJ	25	26
27	28	29	30			

## PLEASE SAVE THE DATE

**Thursday, September 17---10:00 AM-12:00 PM**

Drive through pick up of Yearbooks  
 Congregation Beth Israel  
 Details to Follow

*We've missed you and would love to see your faces!!!*

Please note: For those of you who are unable to make it on the 17th, we'll arrange pickup spots throughout the county.

**Thursday, September 24 ----10:00 AM**

Meeting Via Zoom  
 Business meeting: 10:00  
 Program: 10:30

Don't Miss the  
**DEADLINE!**

Next Spindrifter deadline  
 October 1



## FRIENDS AND ENEMIES - 8

### Rabbits



We've grown vegetables for fifty years but have never considered rabbits a problem until this summer. Over the years, we would see a rabbit occasionally but never identified any damage to our plants, edible or ornamental. Last year we had several resident rabbits which emerged every evening before sundown to graze on our small remaining patch of lawn. Still, they seemed to restrict their feeding to a welcome trimming of the grass.

This year is different. While they don't seem to be more numerous than they were a year ago, they have become much more aggressive towards our edibles. The first targets were young pole beans and corn seedlings. We tried to shield them with a fence of bird netting, which we used to surround several beds, not without uttering some strong language. Even after several rounds of reinforcement, protection was incomplete. The rabbits proved adept at pushing in the free-standing parts of the netting to reach the new growth. We switched to "Agfabric insect barrier netting", which proved both easier to work with and much more effective. We can quickly fashion a wall, 2 to 3 feet high, attached with clothes pegs to plant stakes, which protects a 4 by 8-foot raised bed. I expect that the rabbits could jump over it if they were so motivated, but the netting seems to hide the plants effectively. The barrier isn't so high as to make it difficult to water and weed the bed.

We've also engaged in a policy of appeasement, leaving some large broccoli plants, which we normally would have dug up. The rabbits keep them nicely trimmed, brazenly continuing to feed, even when we approach within a few feet of them. They even leave a few florets for us, and we've had an adequate supply for a few meals though the summer when we ordinarily don't eat cole crops.

Curiously, the rabbits aren't at all adventurous about sampling other vegetables. We've left carrots unprotected, and they've not been molested, Mr. McGregor and Elmer Fudd's experiences notwithstanding. Other plants one might think would be attractive to them, like Swiss chard and melons, are ignored. Once the beans and corn mature, we can uncover them without experiencing further damage. Perhaps it's just that our garden offers such largesse that they can confine their diet to the items they find most tasty. Our daughter, who lives next to a canyon in Tierrasanta, reports that almost everything she leaves unprotected is eaten down to the ground by rabbits and squirrels.

The increased numbers and apparent hunger of our local rabbit populations may be explained by the unusually heavy rainfall in the late winter and spring. The plentiful foliage encouraged larger than normal litters, leaving a dearth of tender young vegetation during an arid summer. The abundance in our well-watered vegetable beds may have been enough for the normally shy animal to overcome its fear of humans.



## Bouquet of Thanks Plans

Thank you to all our generous sponsors and the many who have volunteered to help ***Bouquet of Thanks*** this year. Our project leads have been busy envisioning safe ways of achieving our mission to provide seasonally appropriate floral material to the VA patients, families, and staff. We have decided to plan projects that we have experience with so we do not have to reimagine an entirely new project while figuring out the COVID-19 logistics. Fortunately, we already have a process worked out with the hospital volunteers for dropping off materials at the front of the VA, while maintaining an appropriate social distance. The bigger challenge will be making the 100-150 items that we usually do, while keeping our volunteers safe.

Special thanks are due to Ann Craig and Max Elliott for delivering two truckloads of gorgeous proteas to the VA in May. The staff and patients were thrilled with the colorful donations!

Despite the unprecedented challenge of working safely around COVID-19, at least we are well-funded. We had to defer two projects from the end of the last club year, but fortunately the donated funding carried over and was added to this year's member donations. Our club members were very generous, as well, when renewing their memberships. Thank you so much! Our budget will allow us to do about five projects this year. Here is the first near-term project for which we are firming up plans:

**Mid October: 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Pumpkins for Patriots**, Chaired by Sandy Small. Unfortunately, St. James by the Sea, our usual venue, is not an option this year. However, we are planning to divide up pumpkins and supplies for individuals or groups of 3-4 to assemble pumpkins at various homes. Our target is to create about 105 smaller pumpkins for bedside tables and 25 larger ones for public areas. Thank you to those who have already volunteered to host!

More plans in upcoming issues.

*Thanks again to all who support us!*

*Julia Sheldon, Chair*





## SEPTEMBER 2020 CALENDAR

All the gardening sites I use as references for this calendar show the organizations are doing virtual and Zoom meetings. If you would like to see what is happening, you can use the list of organizations with web links that was part of the last (April/May) calendar to check. Having been confined to home for these many months you are probably ready to venture out. You might like to revisit some of the famous attractions that tourists from all over come to see.

### PLACES TO GO

**San Diego Botanic Garden:** Open Tuesday – Sunday 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m., and Labor Day, Sept. 7.

**RESERVATIONS REQUIRED.** Cost: Adults \$18; Seniors \$12; Children \$10. Reservations and tickets are available at <http://www.sdbgarden.org> . 230 Quail Gardens Drive, Encinitas, CA 92024.

**San Diego Zoo and Safari Park** are open and operating under CDC and State of California guidelines. Animal encounters, shows, and bus and trams are not available. The attendance in the parks is reduced, and waiting people are admitted as people exit. I saw frequent cleaning going on throughout the parks. San Diego Zoo (2920 Zoo Drive, San Diego) Safari Park (15500 San Pasqual Valley Road, San Diego). More information and ticket purchases available at <http://www.zoosandiegozoo.org> .

**Friendship Garden of San Diego:** Japanese garden with walkways, bridges, and landscapes. Buildings are closed. Garden open Tuesday - Sunday 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Cost: \$4 adult; \$2.50 senior. Located in Balboa Park.

### OF INTEREST

**September, 1-15 - California Native Plant Society, San Diego Chapter** FALL PLANT SALE 2020. Amazing selection of California native plants, seeds, and merchandise. Orders will be ONLINE ORDER ONLY with a \$75 minimum and will end after 189 orders have been received or September 15 whichever comes first. Pickup will be by appointment during the final weekend of October. Order forms are available at <http://cnpssd.org>

**Master Gardeners Association of San Diego County:** Check out their updated website that has many interesting features. One program that caught my eye is called Reminiscence Gardening. It provides step by step instructions for gardening activities that can be easily be done at home and are inclusive for all levels of dementia: <https://mastergardenersd.org>

## Upcoming Gardening Events were cancelled to comply with Governor's Stay at Home Order

Below is a list of links to websites that you can check as the Virus situation changes.

California Native Plant Society, San Diego Chapter <http://cnpssd.org>

Friendship Garden of San Diego <http://niwa.org>

Ikebana International Chapter 119 of San Diego <http://ikebanasandiego.org>

San Diego Bonsai Club <https://www.sandiegobonsaiclub.com>

San Diego Botanic Garden <http://www.sdbgarden.org>

San Diego Bromeliad Society <http://sandiegobromeliadsociety.org>

San Diego Ephemery Society <https://www.sandiegoepi.org>

San Diego Floral Association <http://sdfloral> [sdfloral.org](http://sdfloral.org)

San Diego Horticultural Society <https://www.sdhort.org>

San Diego County Orchid Society <http://sdorchids.com>

San Diego Rose Society <http://sdrosesociety.org>

San Diego Zoo <http://www.sandiegozoo.com>

Village Garden Club of La Jolla <http://vgclj.com>

**Stay safe!**

Patricia Parks

